

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 15 public bills, H.R. 6491–6505; and 7 resolutions, H. Res. 1341–1342, 1345–1349 were introduced.

Pages H6576–77

**Additional Cosponsors:**

Pages H6577–78

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 1343, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5959) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System (H. Rept. 110–759) and

H. Res. 1344, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3999) to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve the safety of Federal-aid highway bridges, to strengthen bridge inspection standards and processes, and to increase investment in the reconstruction of structurally deficient bridges on the National Highway System (H. Rept. 110–760).

Page H6576

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative McNulty to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today.

Page H6475

**Recess:** The House recessed at 9:15 a.m. and reconvened at 10 a.m.

Page H6476

**Private Calendar:** The House agreed to dispense with the call of the Private Calendar today.

Page H6477

**Discharge Petition:** Representative Drake moved to discharge the Committee on Energy and Commerce from the consideration of H.R. 2493, to amend the Clean Air Act to provide for a reduction in the number of boutique fuels, and for other purposes (Discharge Petition No. 13).

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

**NASA 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act:** H.R. 6455, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

Pages H6480–87

**Timothy J. Russert Highway Designation Act:** S. 3145, to designate a portion of United States Route 20A, located in Orchard Park, New York, as the “Timothy J. Russert Highway”—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H6487–89

**Appalachian Regional Development Act Amendments:** S. 496, amended, to reauthorize and improve the program authorized by the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965;

Pages H6489–93

**Supporting the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month:** H. Con. Res. 299, amended, to support the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month;

Pages H6493–96

**Commending the Arizona State University softball team for their victory in the 2008 Women's College World Series:** H. Res. 1323, to commend the Arizona State University softball team for their victory in the 2008 Women's College World Series, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  ye-a-and-nay vote of 425 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 490;

Pages H6496–98, H6532–33

**Congratulating the Hamilton College Continentals on winning the NCAA Division III women's lacrosse championship:** H. Res. 1259, amended, to congratulate the Hamilton College Continentals on winning the NCAA Division III women's lacrosse championship, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  ye-a-and-nay vote of 423 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 489;

Pages H6498–H6500, H6531–32

**Congratulating the 2008 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Baseball Champions, the Fresno State Bulldogs, on an outstanding and historic season:** H. Res. 1327, amended, to congratulate the 2008 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Baseball Champions, the Fresno State Bulldogs, on an outstanding and historic season;

Pages H6500–02

**Recognizing and commending the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for 50 years of service as a vital American cultural ambassador to the world:** H. Res. 1088, amended, to recognize and commend the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for 50 years of service as a vital American cultural ambassador to the world;

Pages H6502–04

**Congratulating East High School in Denver, Colorado, on winning the 2008 “We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution” national competition:** H. Res. 1261, amended, to congratulate East High School in Denver, Colorado, on winning the 2008 “We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution” national competition;

Pages H6504–07

**Honoring the esteemed former President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela on the occasion of his 90th birthday:** H. Res. 1090, amended, to honor the esteemed former President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela on the occasion of his 90th birthday, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  ye-

and-nay vote of 411 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 494; **Pages H6507–10, H6545–46**

*Condemning the attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in July 1994:* H. Con. Res. 385, to condemn the attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in July 1994; **Pages H6510–13**

*Providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 3890, with amendments:* H. Res. 1341, to provide for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 3890, with amendments; **Pages H6513–20**

*Amending the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate:* H.R. 3032, amended, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate; and **Pages H6534–35**

*Extending through 2013 the authority of the Federal Election Commission to impose civil money penalties on the basis of a schedule of penalties established and published by the Commission:* H.R. 6296, to extend through 2013 the authority of the Federal Election Commission to impose civil money penalties on the basis of a schedule of penalties established and published by the Commission. **Pages H6535–36**

**Suspension—Failed:** The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

*Directing the Election Assistance Commission to establish a program to make grants to participating States and units of local government which will administer the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2008 for carrying out a program to make backup paper ballots available in the case of the failure of a voting system or voting equipment in the election or some other emergency situation:* H.R. 5803, to direct the Election Assistance Commission to establish a program to make grants to participating States and units of local government which will administer the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2008 for carrying out a program to make backup paper ballots available in the case of the failure of a voting system or voting equipment in the election or some other emergency situation, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nay vote of 248 yeas to 170 nays, Roll No. 493. **Pages H6536–41, H6545**

**Committee Resignation:** Read a letter from Representative Kanjorski, wherein he resigned from the Committee on Science and Technology, effective July 14, 2008. **Page H6520**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 2:06 p.m. and reconvened at 2:34 p.m. **Page H6520**

**Presidential Veto Message—Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act of 2008:** Read a message from the President wherein he announced his veto of H.R. 6331, to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to extend expiring provisions under the Medicare Program, to improve beneficiary access to preventive and mental health services, to enhance low-income benefit programs, and to maintain access to care in rural areas, including pharmacy access, and explained his reasons therefor—ordered printed (H. Doc. 110–131). **Pages H6520–31**

Subsequently, the House voted to override the President's veto of H.R. 6331, to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to extend expiring provisions under the Medicare Program, to improve beneficiary access to preventive and mental health services, to enhance low-income benefit programs, and to maintain access to care in rural areas, including pharmacy access, by a yeas-and-nay vote of 383 yeas to 41 nays, Roll No. 491 (two-thirds of those present voting to override). **Page H6533**

**Committee Elections:** The House agreed to H. Res. 1342, electing the following Members to serve on certain standing committees of the House of Representatives: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Representative Speier. Committee on Science and Technology: Representative Edwards (MD) (to rank immediately after Representative Richardson). Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Representative Edwards (MD). **Page H6534**

**Order of Procedure:** Agreed by unanimous consent that if Representative Kucinich offers a resolution as a question of the privileges of the House at any time on the legislative day of July 15, 2008—(1) the previous question shall be considered as ordered thereon without intervening motion except one motion to refer and one motion to table (which shall have precedence in the order stated); and (2) the Speaker may postpone further proceedings on such a vote on any such motion as though under clause 8(a)(1)(A) of rule 20. **Pages H6541–42**

**Privileged Resolution—Motion to Refer:** Agreed to refer H. Res. 1345, raising a question of the privileges of the House, to the Committee on the Judiciary by a yeas-and-nay vote of 238 yeas to 180 nays, Roll No. 492. **Pages H6542–45**

**Senate Messages:** Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H6513, H6547.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Six yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6531–32, H6532–33, H6533, H6544–45, H6545, H6545–46. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 10:53 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

### U.S. DEFENSE GRAND STRATEGY

*Committee on Armed Services*, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on A New U.S. Grand Strategy. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### LABOR'S WAGE/HOUR LAWS ENFORCEMENT

*Committee on Education and Labor*: Held a hearing on Is the Department of Labor Effectively Enforcing Our Wage and Hour Laws? Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GAO: Gregory D. Kutz, Managing Director, Forensic Audits and Special Investigations; and Anne-Marie Lasowski, Acting Director, Education, Workforce and Income Security Issues; Alexandria Passantino, Acting Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor; and a public witness.

### PERMANENT NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL

*Committee on Energy and Commerce*: Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality held a hearing entitled "Next Steps Toward Permanent Nuclear Waste Disposal." Testimony was heard from Representative Berkley; from the following officials of the Department of Energy: Edward F. Sproat, III, Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management; and B. John Garrick, Chairman, U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board; Michael F. Weber, Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, NRC; Robert J. Meyers, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, EPA; and public witnesses.

### NATIONAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

*Committee on Homeland Security*: Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response held a hearing entitled "Assessing the Framework and Coordination of the National Emergency Communications Plan." Testimony was heard following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Robert D. Jamison, Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate; and

Chris Essid, Director, Office of Emergency Communications; and public witnesses.

### AIR CARGO SECURITY

*Committee on Homeland Security*: Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure held a hearing entitled "The Next Step in Aviation Security—Cargo Security: Is DHS Implementing the Requirements of the 9/11 Law Effectively?" Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: John P. Shammon, Assistant Administrator, Transportation Sector Network Management, Transportation Security Administration; and James Tuttle, Director, Explosives Division, Directorate for Science and Technology; Cathleen Berrick, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

### INTERNET COMPETITION

*Committee on the Judiciary*: Task Force on Competition Policy and Antitrust Laws held a hearing on Competition on the Internet. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on the Judiciary*: Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 6126, Fairness in Nursing Home Arbitration Act of 2008; H.R. 5312, Automobile Arbitration Fairness Act of 2008; and H.R. 3010, Arbitration Fairness Act of 2007.

### ADMINISTRATION INTERROGATION RULES

*Committee on the Judiciary*: Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties continued hearings on From the Department of Justice to Guantanamo Bay: Administration Lawyers and Administration Interrogation Rules, Part IV. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on the Judiciary*: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 6064, National Silver Alert Act; H.R. 5898, Silver Alert Grant Program Act of 2008; and H.R. 423, Kristen's Act Reauthorization of 2007. Testimony was heard from Representatives Doggett, Bilirakis and Myrick.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Natural Resources*: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 2297, Arizona National Scenic Trail Act; H.R. 2299, Southern Nevada Limited Transition Area Act; H.R. 5335, To amend the